

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a color image projection apparatus using a color wheel 51 to illuminate a spatial optical modulator 8 with light in color sequence, light reflected from the color wheel 51 is added to light having passed through the color wheel, and the combined light is spatially modulated by the spatial optical modulator 8 to form an image. If the light reflected at the incident surface 60a of the color wheel 51 is guided to the exit surface 60b of the color wheel 51, and combined with the light having passed through the color wheel, the light utilization efficiently is improved. Any type of images can be projected with improved brightness.